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BUREAU OF CROP ESTIMATES,
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 15, 1921.

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FOREIGN CROP AND LIVE STOCK REPORT.

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SUMMARY OF FOREIGN CROP PROSPECTS.

The generally favorable climatic conditions attending the growing season in ARGENTINA for the year 1920-21 inspired a few months ago optimistic expectations as to yields, when private estimates of a probable outturn of 224,000,000 bushels of wheat were not uncommon. From present indications, however, the expected yields will probably be quite heavily reduced. The latest forecast on the production of wheat at present available to the United States Bureau of Crop Estimates places the outturn at 184,000,000 bushels, which is from 30 to 40 million bushels less than had been generally anticipated.

CROP ESTIMATES FOR
ARGENTINA REDUCED.

Recent official estimates transmitted by the International Institute of Agriculture, at Rome, Italy, place the acreage of wheat for the current harvest at 14,817,000 acres, as compared with 14,958,000 last year. Corresponding figures on production place the amount at 184,000,000 bushels for the present season compared with 214,000,000 last year. The acreage of oats is reported at 2,061,000 acres compared with 2,301,000 last year, producing respectively 48,000,000 and 57,000,000 bushels. The acreage of linseed this year is given as 3,424,000 acres, as against 3,522,000 last year, with a corresponding production of 43,000,000 bushels, as against 42,000,000. There is little fresh news concerning the crops of AUSTRALIA. Moderate rains were reported in New South Wales

WHEAT PRODUCTION
IN AUSTRALIA.

during last month and recent advices still place the wheat crop for the current season at approximately 147,000,000 bushels. In the UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA the crops in the Cape Province have suffered somewhat from drought but in the principal producing districts the season, generally speaking, has been favorable. The latest estimates received in the Bureau of Crop Estimates place the acreage of wheat at 823,000 acres compared with 800,000 last year, with a corresponding production of 8,113,000 bushels this year, as against 6,630,000 last year. The acreage of barley is estimated at 91,000 acres compared with 99,000 last year, producing respectively 1,208,000 and 1,160,000 bushels. The acreage of oats was reported as 564,000 acres, producing 7,327,000 bushels for the present season compared with an acreage of 558,000 acres producing 7,519,000 bushels last year. In URUGUAY recent estimates place the acreage of wheat at 750,000 acres compared with 681,000 last year, with a corresponding production of 10,321,000 bushels and 5,948,000 bushels respectively. The acreage of oats is reported as 564,000 acres compared with 486,000 last year and a corresponding production of 1,989,000 bushels compared with 1,448,000 last year. The area of linseed is quoted at 3,434,000 acres against 3,522,000 last year, with a corresponding production of 1,056,000 bushels compared with 932,000 last year. In BRAZIL the production of wheat for the present season is estimated at 4,409,000 bushels.

81,000

83,000

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SUMMARY OF FOREIGN CROP PROSPECTS, -CONT'D.

In the NORTHERN HEMISPHERE the prospects of the 1921 cereal crops are, with one or two exceptions, quite promising. In CANADA the agricultural situation remains about normal. Excellent progress has been made with autumn plowing and recent reports indicate that in the western region good snow falls have occurred. In FRANCE preparations for spring sowings are progressing actively. Last month cold weather somewhat checked the growth of plants but the present outlook may be described as quite satisfactory. The acreage of the autumn sown crops are reported as follows: Winter wheat 12,137,000 acres, or 106.8 per cent of the 1920 area and 108.3 per cent of the average for the preceding five years; rye 2,052,000 acres, or 104.7 per cent of the 1920 area and 103.2 per cent of the average for the preceding five years; winter oats 1,849,000 acres, or 100.8 per cent of the 1920 area, and 107.8 per cent of the average for the preceding five years. Recently various reports have been received regarding the crop situation in RUSSIA, but no reliable information can be obtained. From unofficial sources we receive the information that the Kuban Government of South Russia has approximately 40,000,000 bushels of grain for export, while some returns indicate that there is a shortage of seed and unless more seed can be found there is danger of a general famine. However, all of the above information concerning Russia must be accepted with reserve. In GERMANY the crops, generally speaking, are satisfactory in appearance. The crop conditions on December 1, were as follows, (expressed according to the country's scale of 2 = good and 3 = average): Wheat 3.1 as against 2.9 in November and 3.2 in December, 1919; rye 3.1 as against 2.8 in November and 3.2 in December, 1919; and barley 2.7 as against 2.5 in November and 2.9 in December, 1919. In BELGIUM crop prospects are described as excellent, with spring cultivation progressing quite favorably. The weather during January was wet and the temperature mild. There was very little snow, and that only in the Ardennes. As a result of these favorable climatic conditions all autumn sowings have a good appearance, especially those made at the end of September and the beginning of October. It is reported that growers are using much larger quantities of fertilizers than in 1919 and 1920, the decline in price contributing in a large measure to the increased consumption. Owing to the scarcity and dearth of agricultural labor the use of machinery for field-work is generally increasing. In the UNITED KINGDOM fine, mild weather prevailed during the month of February. This weather was most favorable to agricultural interests and the result will give farmers a splendid chance to make early and good progress with spring plowing and sowing. From SPAIN reports of crop and weather conditions continue to be of a satisfactory nature, the field at the present time having a splendid appearance. In ITALY, during December, 1920, the weather was wet and mild. In the southern provinces the rains somewhat interfered with the sowing, but these were carried on under generally average conditions. Germination was regular and uniform. Lately cold weather, accompanied by heavy snowfalls, has been experienced in the central and northern regions but it is considered that this has had no unfavorable effect on the young crops. In ROUMANIA during February the gradual melting of the snows put the land in good condition for plowing and a considerable area was seeded to oats and barley. A limited amount of spring wheat has been sown. In BULGARIA the condition of cereals is mainly good. The wheat acreage for the harvest of 1921 is estimated at 2,481,000 acres, or 101.1 per cent of the 1920 area, and 106.6 per cent of the average for the preceding five years; rye 404,000 acres, or 106 per cent of the 1920 area, and 86.5 per cent of the average for the preceding five years; barley 413,000 acres, or 106 per cent of the 1920 area, and 73.3 per cent of the average for the preceding five years. In HUNGARY the greater part of the sowings have wintered satisfactorily but the area of wheat is from 10 to 15 per cent below last year's. From AUSTRIA recent reports indicate that some damage has been caused to crops by frost.

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SUMMARY OF FOREIGN CROP PROSPECTS,--CONT'D.

In PORTUGAL the autumn sowings of all cereals have been effected in excellent conditions. Germination of all crops is regular and the weather generally favorable. In INDIA the early cessation of last season's monsoon restricted the areas sown with autumn crops and these crops are now suffering from the lack of winter rains, in the United Provinces, Punjab and North West, also in Central India, the Central Provinces and Bombay. Scarcity prevails in parts of the Bombay Presidency and of the Central Provinces. Indications regarding rainfall in North Western India, and snowfall in the adjacent mountain ranges are also noted as sufficiently unfavorable to cause some anxiety, but not to justify any definite forecast of deficient crops. The wheat area for the harvest of 1920-21 is estimated at 23,352,000 acres, or 77.8 per cent of the 1920 area, and 75.3 per cent of the average for the preceding five years. The area sown to linseed for the season 1920-21 is reported as 1,755,000 acres, against 2,245,000 in 1919-20 and 2,530,000 the average for the years 1914-15 to 1918-19, or 78.2 per cent and 69.4 per cent of the two last mentioned areas respectively. The area of

AREA OF WHEAT, LINSEED, rape and mustard is estimated for the present season at 2,815,000 acres, against 3,293,000 in 1919-20 and 3,615,000 the average for the five years 1914-15 to 1918-19, or 86.1 per cent and 78.4 per cent of the two last mentioned areas respectively.

In NORTH AFRICA, hopes are entertained of a good harvest this year, the crops at the present time having a very satisfactory appearance. In ALGERIA the weather continues favorable over the greater part of the country, the general situation being very promising for the coming harvest. In MOROCCO, in all districts, with the exception of Oudjda, moisture has been abundant and the grain sowings are generally satisfactory. Rains in Tunisia have been experienced lately and the outlook is very promising. Good crops are anticipated in the north and the growers are well satisfied while in the South the prospects are not so good owing to the delay in obtaining seed. In EGYPT owing to favorable weather the bulk of the wheat crop was sown early and germination has progressed in a promising manner. According to unofficial sources the area under wheat and barley has been somewhat increased over that of last year. As published in our previous reports a decree has been issued by the Egyptian Government limiting cotton cultivation during the 1921 season. In this decree the cultivation of cotton is entirely prohibited in the Upper Egypt basins, except where irrigation is carried out with Nile water and no land owner may sow more than one-third of his holdings with cotton.

CROPS IN GENERAL.

BERMUDA:

The returns showing the production of potatoes, onions and green vegetables for export are as follows:

	1917-18.	1918-19,	1919-20.
Potatoes (barrels)	81,158	87,096	58,605
Onions (bus. crates)	133,141	131,271	81,373
Green vegetables (bus. crates)	66,177	156,842	271,284

No accurate returns are available giving the production for local consumption. The potato crop for the current year will in all likelihood be an average one, but onions and green vegetables will be way below normal years.

(Director, Department of Agriculture, Bermuda).

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CROPS IN GENERAL, -CONT'D.

MEXICO:

From the Department of Agriculture, Propaganda and Statistics of the Secretary of Agriculture and Promotion of the Mexican Government, the American Chamber of Commerce gets the following figures as to the crops of Mexico in 1918 (compared with approximate averages for the years 1901 to 1905 and 1906 to 1910 in the following table).

Crop.	Unit.	Production.		
		Average 1901-1905.	Average 1906-1910.	1918.
Rice (1)	Lbs.	49,601,145:	68,416,756 :	40,154,924
Barley	Bu.	17,870,486:	20,456,706 :	17,251,822
Corn	"	84,897,763:	126,749,707 :	75,984,741
Wheat	"	10,294,652:	11,272,226 :	10,469,751
Beans	"	6,403,906:	6,003,758 :	4,857,587
Chickpeas	"	1,529,335:	2,224,280 :	2,546,447
Sweet Potatoes ..	"	1,105,319:	842,769 :	729,115
Potatoes	"	445,099:	737,426 :	451,575
Green Chile	Lbs.	88,992,934:	124,012,533 :	67,326,169
Dry Chile	"	18,246,553:	21,624,990 :	13,747,043
Sugar Cane	Short tons	2,102,146:	2,488,051 :	1,404,476
Sugar	" "	98,666:	116,719 :	73,242
Honey	Lbs.	129,050,866:	187,890,346 :	110,192,852
Peanuts	Bu.	728,547:	664,284 :	473,432
Cotton (2)	Bales of 478 lbs.	262,142:	186,823 :	365,709
Henequen	Lbs.	200,448,414:	187,038,897 :	348,473,807
Cocoa	"	4,925,956:	6,406,614 :	5,511,500
Coffee	"	62,034,776:	78,898,340 :	104,900,468
Vanilla	"	312,751:	414,476 :	202,664
Tobacco	"	26,695,872:	31,735,925 :	27,963,001
Ixtle fiber .....	"	.....:	122,063,228 :	.....
Chicle .....	"	.....:	5,994,967 :	.....
Guayule rubber ..	"	.....:	53,489,108 :	.....

(1). Not stated whether rough or cleaned. (Journal of the American

(2). Not stated whether ginned or unginned. Chamber of Commerce.)

JAPAN:

According to an article in the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce Journal the production of grain crops for 1920 was as follows:

Crop.	1920,	Increase (+) or decrease (-) compared with 1919.		Increase (+) or decrease (-) compared with normal crop.	
		Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Wheat	30,144,307	-	2,405,628	-	325,246
Barley	42,436,300	-	7,904,130	-	7,051,950
Naked Barley	42,472,804	+	3,459,896	-	1,712,106

(Commerce Reports).

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COTTON AND COTTON SEED.

EGYPT:

Production and Distribution of the Egyptian Cotton and Cotton Seed Crops of the Seasons 1915-1916 to 1919-1920.

Cotton.	Cotton (bales of 478 pounds).						
	Stock			Avail-	Consump-	De-	Stocks
Season	remain-			able	tion of	stroyed	at the
to	ing from:			for	local	by	end of
August.	previous:	Crop.	Total.	export.	spinning:	fire.	each sea-
	seasons.				factor-		son.
					ies.		
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
1915-1916 ..	184	989	1,174	1,140	12	3	19
1916-1917 ..	19	1,049	1,068	987	13	(1)	68
1917-1918 ..	68	1,304	1,372	1,130	12	(1)	229
1918-1919 ..	229	999	1,228	1,124	12	(1)	92
1919-1920 ..	92	1,155	1,246	1,157	5	2	82

Cotton	Cotton seed (pounds).						
	Stock			Avail-	Consump-		Stocks at
season	remain-			able for	tion of	Used	the end
September	ing from:	Crop.	Total.	for ex-	of local:	for	of each
to	previous:			port.	of local:	sowing:	season.
August.	Seasons.				ing fac-		
					tories.		
	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
1915-1916 ..	3,5	970,5	974,0	591,6	235,6	140,1	6,7
1916-1917 ..	7,0	1,033,6	1,040,6	518,8	342,9	142,0	36,9
1917-1918 ..	36,9	1,287,4	1,324,3	923,2	270,9	111,5	18,7
1918-1919 ..	18,7	987,6	1,006,4	630,1	222,5	133,2	20,6
1919-1920 ..	20,6	1,141,7	1,162,3	707,6	220,9	154,8	78,9

(1). Less than 500 bales. (Monthly Agricultural Statistics, Egypt).

FARM EMPLOYEES.

NEW ZEALAND:

The following table shows the number of employees (including Working Proprietors or Managers) ordinarily employed on holdings of an area of one acre or over.

(000 omitted).

	Number used principally for --							
Year.	Agricultural Purposes.		Dairying Purposes.		Pastoral or un-specified purposes.		On all holdings.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1918-19...	13	3	32	18	47	10	92	31
1919-20 ..	13	3	37	18	50	11	100	33

(Supplement to the New Zealand Gazette).

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FARM LOANS.

PARAGUAY:

A bill was presented to Congress which authorizes an emission of 50,000,000 paper pesos (par value of 1 peso = \$.9648,) one half of which amount will be used for loans to live-stock owners and the other half for loans on agricultural products. Loans to cattle owners will be made for 6 months at an interest of 9 per cent annually; renewal of only 50 per cent of the loan can be made for the same length of time. The cattle themselves will form the guarantry for these loans which will be based on the current market value. In no case will more than 500,000 paper pesos be loaned to one person. Loans on agricultural products, with the products as guarantry will be made as follows: On tobacco in bales, 75 per cent of market value; on Yerba, 60 per cent; on cotton, 60 per cent; on shelled rice, 60 per cent; on rice with shell, 50 per cent; and on peanuts 50 per cent.

(Commerce Reports).

FARM WAGES.

CANADA:

A further advance is recorded in the average wages paid for farm help in 1920, as compared with the previous year. For the whole of Canada, the average wages per month of farm helpers during the summer season of 1920 were for men \$86, and for women \$47, including board, the average value of which was \$26 per month for men and \$20 for women. In 1919 the corresponding averages were: \$78 for men; including board value \$24 and \$43 for women, including board value \$19.

(Department of Trade and Commerce, Canada).

NORWAY:

Farm wages show a steady increase in Norway as shown by the following tables giving the daily farm wages during the years 1915-16 to 1918-19.

DAILY WAGES OF DAY LABORERS 1915-16 TO 1918-19.

			1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.
			\$	\$	\$	\$
Men day-laborers:						
Not boarded	Summer	Sowing .....	.98	1.33	1.91	2.59
	Half	Mowing	1.07	1.46	2.11	2.73
	Year	Reaping .....	.98	1.33	1.95	2.64
		Other work .....	.89	1.29	1.84	2.49
	Winter half-year		.83	1.21	1.66	2.21
Boarded	Summer	Sowing .....	.67	.89	1.29	1.79
	Half	Mowing .....	.79	1.04	1.50	1.99
	Year	Reaping .....	.67	.90	1.30	1.80
		Other work .....	.64	.85	1.21	1.65
	Winter half-year		.49	.73	1.03	1.42
Woman day-laborers:						
Not Boarded	Summer	Sowing .....	.57	.74	1.05	1.45
	Half	Mowing .....	.63	.79	1.13	1.59
	Year	Reaping .....	.59	.77	1.12	1.61
		Other work .....	.54	.71	.98	1.39
	Winter half-year		.49	.65	.89	1.30
Boarded	Summer	Sowing .....	.35	.46	.64	.90
	Half	Mowing .....	.42	.52	.73	1.02
	Year	Reaping .....	.38	.50	.71	1.03
		Other work .....	.32	.42	.58	.85
	Winter half-year		.27	.36	.50	.70

Note.- Conversions to United States equivalents computed at par value.
(International Review of Agricultural Economics).

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FRUIT.

NEW ZEALAND:

The following table shows the quantity of fruit gathered in commercial orchards, exclusive of boroughs, for the years 1918-19 and 1919-20:

Fruit.	Production.	
	1918-19.	1919-20.
	<u>Bushels.</u>	<u>Bushels.</u>
Apples	698,043	1,123,858
Pears	112,936	182,301
Peaches	119,421	131,728
Nectarines	15,961	14,099
Apricots	52,569	56,644
Plums	73,923	66,362
Cherries	5,467	7,244
Oranges	2,989	2,534
Lemons	5,798	4,884
Quinces	1,911	2,285
Walnuts	631	532

(Supplement to the New Zealand Gazette).

GREECE:

Reports from a reliable, but unofficial source, indicate that the citrus fruit crop of Greece was more satisfactory to the growers in 1920 than in the previous year. The production was as follows: Oranges 15,000,000 pieces; mandarines 61,500,000 pieces; lemons 29,000,000 pieces. Figures for the Island of Crete are not available.

(Consular Letter).

MEXICO (Frontera Consular District):

During the year 1919 the exportation of bananas to the United States amounted to about 200,000 stems, and the year 1920 has followed with a production of nearly a million stems. The planters are now predicting a yield of two million stems for the coming year.

(Consular Letter).

JAMAICA:

Last season's crop of citrus is estimated at approximately 150,000 boxes and the prospects for the coming season are considered good.

(Consular Letter).

CHINA (Foochow):

The production of oranges was less than in the previous year. The total yield was estimated at 3,600,000 pounds.

(Consular Letter).

GARBANZOS (Chick peas).

MEXICO:

According to reliable data just compiled by the Southern Pacific Railroad of Mexico which handles practically all the Garbanzos grown in the States of Sonora and Sinaloa, the 1920 crop of this community was much larger than the crops of 1919 and 1918. Total quantities shipped from the several garbanzos stations in these States reached 309,662 bags (1 bag = 220 pounds) in 1918, 302,334 bags in 1919 and 430,770 bags in 1920.

(Journal of the Chamber of Commerce of Mexico.)

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LIVE STOCK.

NEW ZEALAND:

LAMBING SEASONS 1916 TO 1920.

Year.	Number of ewes put to Ram.	Average per- centage of lambing.	Number of lambs.	Number of lambs tailed.
1920	11,568,549	84.11	9,730,950	.....
1919	12,308,506	77.02	9,480,662	9,446,385
1918	13,022,030	81.50	10,610,073	10,485,351
1917	13,260,169	87.50	11,611,340	11,194,167
1916	12,892,767	83.25	10,733,579	10,745,386

(Monthly Abstract of Statistics, New Zealand)

ROUMANIA (Transylvania):

The number of cattle in Transylvania in March 1920 was 1,985,128 compared with 2,160,500 on February 28, 1911. The total number of 1,985,128 cattle may be divided as follows according to kind: Bulls over 2 years, 15,052; young bulls and bull calves under 2 years, 36,719; oxen over 2 years 392,337 steers under 2 years 270,989; cows 823,006; heifers over 2 years 159,127; heifers under 2 years (including calves) 290,898.

(Buletinul Statistic al Romaniei.)

RICE.

MEXICO (State of Sonora):

The rice crop now being harvested in the Yaqui River Valley is reported to be the largest in the history of that region. According to figures submitted by Consul Yost, the total yield is estimated at about 150,000, sacks of 200 pounds each, which is three times the aggregate of 1919.

(Journal of the Chamber of Commerce of Mexico).

SESAMUM.

INDIA:

The final figures for the area and production of sesamum for the year 1920-21 are 3,964,000 acres against 4,046,000 last year and 323,000 tons against 402,000 last year.

(Department of Statistics, India);

VALUE OF FARM LAND.

CANADA:

The average value of the occupied farm lands of Canada, which includes both improved and unimproved land, together with dwelling houses, barns, stables and other farm buildings, is \$48 per acre, as compared with \$46 in 1919; \$41 in 1918; \$38 in 1917; \$36 in 1916 and \$35 in 1915.

(Department of Trade and Commerce, Canada),

LEON M. ESTABROOK,
Chief of Bureau.

